

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT ON BILL NO. **S.348**

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TO:	The Honorable Glenn McConnell, Chairman, Senate Judiciary Committee		
FROM:	Office of State Budget, Budget and Control Board		
ANALYSTS:	Kenneth Brown, Rodney Grizzle		
DATE:	February 19, 2009	SBD:	2009141

AUTHOR:	Senator Fair	PRIMARY CODE CITE:	16-3-95
SUBJECT:	Bodily Injury Upon a Child		

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON GENERAL FUND EXPENDITURES:

Minimal (Some additional expenditures are expected but can be absorbed)

ESTIMATED FISCAL IMPACT ON FEDERAL & OTHER FUND EXPENDITURES:

\$0 (No additional expenditures or savings are expected)

BILL SUMMARY:

The Bill would provide a minimum term of imprisonment of two years for a person who is convicted of infliction of great bodily injury upon a child, provides that no portion of the sentence may be suspended and requires family childcare operators and caregivers to annually complete a minimum of two hours of training approved by the Department of Social Services.

EXPLANATION OF IMPACT:

The Judicial Department, the Department of Corrections, and the Department of Social Services each indicate this Bill will have either no impact or a minimal impact on the General Fund of the State, which can be absorbed by the agency at the current level of funding. The Judicial Department indicates however that the enhanced penalties may lead to an increase in trials instead of guilty pleas, which in turn will use more court time in General Session and increase the time in which a case can be processed. There is no impact on Federal and/or Other funds.

LOCAL GOVERNMENT IMPACT:

None.

SPECIAL NOTES:

None.

Approved by:



Harry Bell
Assistant Director, Office of State Budget